

Press Release

To: Arkansas Media
From: Robert J. Alvey, Communications Manager
501-324-9006; fax: 501-324-9012
CC: Governor's Office
Date: November 13, 2000
Re: Authority's Manufacturing Extension Program Seminar Scheduled

Authority Program to Offer Lean Manufacturing Seminar March 22nd at Jacksonville Community Center

On March 22nd 2000 the Arkansas Manufacturing Extension Network (Network) and the Arkansas Manufacturers Association will host a Lean Manufacturing seminar and simulation for local manufacturers. The Network is a program of the Arkansas Science and Technology Authority (Authority).

Lean Manufacturing is an operating system developed by Toyota that helps manufacturers eliminate waste and non-value-added activities by streamlining the production process. Most manufacturers are able to cut costs and increase productivity with reduced resources after implementing the Lean system.

Participants of the seminar and simulation will receive hands-on experience with the principles of Lean Manufacturing through a series of classroom style lectures and exercises. These exercises place participants on the plant floor and show them that by implementing lean principles, they can increase their bottom line by reducing costs and resources.

The Network is funded through a cooperative agreement between the National Institute of Standards and Technology and the Authority. The Network is charged with the task of improving the quality, productivity and global competitiveness of Arkansas manufacturers by providing technical and management assistance.

The basic purpose of the Network is to help manufacturers increase sales and profits by cutting costs and improving manufacturing processes. It is able to do this by offering assistance to manufacturers through field engineers located around the state.

The Arkansas Science & Technology Authority serves as a statewide funding resource for high quality scientific and technological projects. The Authority endeavors to bring the benefits of science and technology to the people and state of Arkansas through scientific research, technology development, business innovation, and education.

LeanSeminar,Boardcommittees,02-16-00 release/Network/News/Media/Communications Manager/e